

**United Envelope**  
**Draft Upland Site Summary**

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**UNITED ENVELOPE (DAR SITE ID #17)**

Address: 45-11 33rd Street, Queens New York 11101  
Tax Lot Parcel(s): Queens Block 247, Lot 18  
Latitude: 40.743661  
Longitude: -73.931415  
Regulatory Programs/  
Numbers/Codes: USEPA ID No NYR000100743, USEPA FRS ID No. 1004762814,  
AFS No. 36081R4543, PBS No. 2-214884  
Analytical Data Status: ☐ Electronic Data Available ☒ Hardcopies Only  
☐ No Data Available

**1 SUMMARY OF CONSTITUENTS OF POTENTIAL CONCERN (COPCs) TRANSPORT  
PATHWAYS TO THE CREEK**

The current understanding of the transport mechanisms of contaminants from the upland portions of the United Envelope site (site) to Newtown Creek is summarized in this section and Table 1 and supported in the following sections.

**Overland Transport**

The site is located approximately 0.37 mile from Newtown Creek and associated waterways. This is not a complete historical or current pathway.

**Bank Erosion**

The site is not adjacent to Newtown Creek or associated waterways. This is not a complete historical or current pathway.

**Groundwater**

Groundwater quality information for this site was not identified in files available for review. The site is located approximately 0.37 mile from Newtown Creek and associated waterways. There is insufficient evidence to make a historical or current pathway determination.

### Overwater Activities

This site is not adjacent to Newtown Creek or associated waterways and has no overwater activities. This is not a complete historical or current pathway.

### Stormwater/Wastewater Systems

Information regarding on-site stormwater infrastructure and management was not identified in documents available for review. This site is located within the Bowery Bay Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) sewershed. Stormwater and wastewater discharges from the site flow into a combined municipal sewer system and when combined flows exceed the system's capacity, untreated combined sewer overflows (CSOs) are discharged to the head of Dutch Kills at Outfall BB-026 (NYCDEP 2007). There is insufficient evidence to make a historical or current pathway determination for direct discharge of stormwater, wastewater, and sewer/CSO.

### Air Releases

The site has a facility-wide air permit (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA] 2012). The site was last listed as in compliance with USEPA procedures on April 7, 2008. Further information related to air discharges or violations was not located for this site. There is insufficient evidence to make a historical or current pathway determination.

## 2 PROJECT STATUS

A Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Biennial Hazardous Waste Report was published for this site in 2009 (rtknet.org 2012). This report was not available for review and no other files containing environmental investigations or remedial activities were identified for this site.

## 3 SITE OWNERSHIP HISTORY

Respondent Member:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Owners	Years	Occupant	Types of Operations
Diamond T. Motor Car Company	ca. 1923 – ca. 1942	Diamond T. Motor Car Company	Automobile repairs
James F. Waters	ca. 1942 – 1956	James F. Waters, Inc.	Automobile sale and repair
George Goldstein, 32nd Place Realty	03/14/56 – unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Jules Kramer and Matilda Goldstein	1974 – 2001	Fairfield-Noble Corporation (lease dated 07/20/75).	Unknown
	2001 – 2004	Penn Grover Envelope Corp., 2001 – 2003 United Envelope, LLC	Printing and manufacture of envelopes, direct mail production
PBCB LI LLC	2004 – 2006	United Envelope, LLC	Printing and manufacture of envelopes, direct mail production
Eastside Corporation	2006 – present	United Envelope, LLC	Printing and manufacture of envelopes, direct mail production

Note:

ca. – circa

#### 4 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The property occupies approximately 1.4 acres at 45-11 33rd Street in Long Island City in the borough of Queens in Long Island City, New York (see Figure 1). The property is currently the location of an envelope manufacturer, occupied by United Envelope, LLC. Topography in the vicinity of the site slopes from approximately 45 feet above mean sea level on the easternmost edge of the site to 35 feet above mean sea level on the westernmost edge of the property. The topography continues to slope down towards Dutch Kills, located approximately 0.4 mile to the southwest. Structures on the property include a building that comprises the entire parcel.

The site is located close to two other environmentally regulated sites; the Con Edison Newtown Substation adjacent to the south and NYCT Kisco Lot to the northwest (see Figure 1). The United Envelope property lies within the area zoned as Manufacturing District, or M1-4 (NYCDP 2012). M1 districts typically include light industrial uses, offices,

hotels, and most retail uses. Certain community facilities, such as hospitals, are allowed in M1 districts by special permit (NYCDP 2011).

## **5 CURRENT SITE USE**

The site was reported as operating in 2008 and is used by United Envelope, LLC for envelope printing/manufacturing and production of direct mailings (USEPA 2012). The company has occupied the site since 2001, initially operating as Penn Grover Envelope Corp. until the company changed names in 2003 (USEPA 2003). There is also a record of a second entity, RFX Envelope, operating at the same address, though RFX Envelope is not listed as either a current or historical corporate entity in the state of New York. No additional information was found in available records.

## **6 SITE USE HISTORY**

As early as 1923 the Diamond T. Motor Car Company occupied the site (Sanborn 1925-1943). The site was vacant until at least 1917, and the main building was constructed in 1923. The northernmost part of the building adjacent to Queen's Boulevard (Thomson Avenue) was used as a filling station, with indoor parts storage, repairs, washing, and acetylene welding occupying the remaining site lots (Sanborn 1911-1917; Sanborn 1925-1943). By 1942, the site housed James F. Waters, Inc., a DeSoto-Plymouth Sales and Service dealer (NYT 1942). After 1947, the filling station area was converted to sales. Auto greasing, parts storage, and an auto laundering station existed on the lots immediately south of the site boundary on the Con Edison – Newtown Substation property (Sanborn 1947-1949).

The property was leased to Fairfield-Noble Corporation in 1975 for a period of ten years (Jules Kramer 1975). No available information about their operations was found.

Penn Grover Envelope Corp. operated at the site beginning in at least 2001 (USEPA 2001). The company changed names in 2003 to United Envelope LLC (USEPA 2003).

United Envelope prints direct mail and transactional envelopes as well as operates web and flat sheet lithographic presses and flexographic web presses (Unitedenvelope.com 2011).

## 7 CURRENT AND HISTORICAL AREAS OF CONCERN AND COPCS

The current understanding of the historical and current potential upland and overwater areas of concern at the site is summarized in Table 1. The following sections provide brief discussion of the potential sources and COPCs at the site.

### 7.1 Uplands

General areas of concern include the manufacturing and printing areas, storage areas/tanks associated with daily operations of the facility, and historical auto servicing, repair, acetylene welding, and washing that occurred on-site. The site was an RCRA large quantity generator of hazardous waste from 2001 to 2008 (EDR 2010). Hazardous wastes generated at the site included ignitable hazardous wastes (D001), corrosive hazardous wastes (D002), and tetrachloroethylene (D039). Between 2005 and 2009, the following quantities of hazardous wastes were reportedly handled. In the EDR report, there is reference to additional manifests. This information was not available for review (EDR 2010).

Waste Code	Waste Name	Year	Amount (pounds)
D001	Ignitable Hazardous Waste	January 2005 – March 2006	41,731 <sup>1</sup>
		2009	19,137.5
D002	Corrosive Hazardous Waste	January – July 2006	6,848*
		2009	4,180.8
D039	Tetrachloroethylene	2009	250.4
NR	Not Reported	January – March 2008	498*

Note:

1 – value calculated assuming 1 gallon = 8.3 pounds

NR – not reported

A 10,000-gallon underground storage tank (PBS No. 2-214884) was used as part of site operations. The tank is listed as part of the RFX Envelope site and there is no additional available information regarding RFX Envelope. The tank contains No. 2 fuel oil. The most recent test occurred in November, 2004 with no closure dates reported (EDR 2010).

The site was cited for ten general violations in 2009 of New York State Register and Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) for hazardous waste management (rtknet.org 2012). The violations included non-compliance with regulations outlined in

Chapter IV of the NYCRR, parts 372 (Hazardous Waste Manifest System and Related Standards for Generators, Transporters and Facilities), 373-3 (Interim Status Standards for Owners and Operators of Hazardous Waste Facilities), and 376 (Land Disposal Restrictions; NYSDEC 2012).

## **7.2 Overwater Activities**

This site is not adjacent to Newtown Creek or associated waterways.

## **7.3 Spills**

Reviewed records did not indicate current or historical spills.

## **8 PHYSICAL SITE SETTING**

Site-specific hydrogeologic information was not identified in documents available for review. The geologic setting for Newtown Creek consists of impermeable Precambrian and Paleozoic crystalline bedrock, overlain by the Upper Cretaceous Raritan formation, Magothy formation and Matawan Group (undifferentiated), unconsolidated Pleistocene deposits and upper Pleistocene glacial deposits and Holocene shore, beach salt-marsh deposits, and alluvium, along with local occurrences of artificial fill (Buxton et al. 1981; Soren and Simmons 1987). The primary areas of groundwater discharge are Newtown Creek and its tributaries and the East River (Misut and Monti 1999). In the vicinity of Newtown Creek, groundwater flow in the Upper Glacial aquifer is generally north and south towards the creek. With increased distance from the creek, groundwater will flow towards the nearest surface water body to discharge (Misut and Monti 1999). Incidences of perched groundwater may occur above the Upper Glacial Aquifer in some areas, particularly in formerly low-lying areas that have been filled. Groundwater flow at a specific property may differ from the regional pattern due to pumping for groundwater treatment or dewatering activities (Misut and Monti 1999), the presence of buried utilities, or other preferential pathways.

## 9 NATURE AND EXTENT (CURRENT UNDERSTANDING OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS)

### 9.1 Soil

Soil Investigations ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 Bank Samples ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable  
 Soil-Vapor Investigation ☐ Yes ☐ No

Information related to soil investigations was not found in reviewed documents.

### 9.2 Groundwater

Groundwater Investigations ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 NAPL Presence (Historical and Current) ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 Dissolved COPC Plumes ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 Visual Seep Sample Data ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable

Information related to groundwater investigations was not found in reviewed documents.

### 9.3 Surface Water

Surface Water Investigation ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 SPDES Permit (Current or Past) ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit (Current or Past) ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 Stormwater Data ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 Catch Basin Solids Data ☐ Yes ☒ No  
 Wastewater Data ☐ Yes ☒ No

#### 9.3.1 Stormwater and Wastewater Systems

Information regarding on-site stormwater infrastructure and management was not identified in documents available for review. This site is located within the Bowery Bay WPCP sewershed. Stormwater and wastewater discharges from the site flow into a combined municipal sewer system and when combined flows exceed the system's capacity, untreated CSOs are discharged to the head of Dutch Kills at Outfall BB-026 (NYCDEP 2007).

## 9.4 Sediment

Creek Sediment Data

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable

Sediment investigation information was not found in the reviewed documents.

## 9.5 Air

Air Permit

☒ Yes ☐ No

Air Data

☐ Yes ☒ No

### 9.5.1 Air Permit

The site has a facility-wide air permit (Air Facility System [AFS] No. 36081R4543). The site is classified as an active synthetic minor source. The most recent test completed on April 7, 2008 found the facility to be within compliance (USEPA 2012) and pollutant emissions below major thresholds. Further information related to air emissions or violations was not found in reviewed documents.

## 10 REMEDIATION HISTORY (INTERIM REMEDIAL MEASURES AND OTHER CLEANUPS)

Information related to remediation was not found in reviewed documents.

## 11 BIBLIOGRAPHY/INFORMATION SOURCES

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- EDR (Environmental Data Resources, Inc.), 2010. EDR DataMap™ Environmental Atlas™. Prepared for Newtown Creek, Queens, New York. November 4, 2010.
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- Misut and Monti (Misut, P.E., and Monti, J. Jr.), 1999. *Simulation of Ground-Water Flow and Pumpage in Kings and Queens Counties, Long Island, New York*. U.S. Geological Survey. Water-Resources Investigations Report 98-4071.



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Sanborn, 1947-1949. *Insurance Maps of the Borough of Queens, City of New York*. Volume1: Sheet 49. 1947-1949.

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Available from: <http://www.unitedenvelope.com/capabilities/#state-of-the-art-manufacturing>

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USEPA, 2012. Envirofacts Database. Updated: April 7, 2008. Accessed February 9, 2012.

Available from:

[http://iaspub.epa.gov/enviro/fii\\_query\\_dtl.disp\\_program\\_facility?p\\_registry\\_id=110012241788](http://iaspub.epa.gov/enviro/fii_query_dtl.disp_program_facility?p_registry_id=110012241788)

## 12 ATTACHMENTS

### Figures

Figure 1 Site Vicinity Map: United Envelope

### Tables

Table 1 Potential Areas of Concern and Transport Pathways Assessment

**Table 1**  
**Potential Areas of Concern and Transport Pathways Assessment – United Envelope**

Potential Areas of Concern	Media Impacted					COPCs													Potential Complete Pathway							
Description of Areas of Concern	Surface Soil	Subsurface Soil	Groundwater	Catch Basin Solids	Creek Sediment	TPH			VOCs			SVOCs	PAHs	Phthalates	Phenolics	Metals	PCBs	Herbicides and Pesticides	Dioxins/Furans	Overland Transport	Groundwater	Direct Discharge – Overwater	Direct Discharge – Storm/Wastewater	Discharge to Sewer/CSO	Bank Erosion	Air Releases
						Gasoline-Range	Diesel – Range	Heavier – Range	Petroleum Related (e.g., BTEX)	VOCs	Chlorinated VOCs															
Facility manufacturing/printing areas	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	--	?	--	?	--	?	?	--	?
UST	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	--	--	--	--	?	--	--	?	--	?
Auto servicing and repairs	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	--	?	--	?	--	?	?	--	?

## Notes:

✓ – COPCs are/were present in Areas of Concern having a current or historical pathway that is determined to be complete or potentially complete

? – There is not enough information to determine if COPC is/was present in Area of Concern or if pathway is complete

-- – Current or historical pathway has been investigated and shown to be not present or incomplete

BTEX – benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene

COPC – constituent of potential concern

CSO – combined sewer overflow

PAH – polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon

PCB – polychlorinated biphenyl

SVOC – semi-volatile organic compound

TPH – total petroleum hydrocarbon

UST – underground storage tank

VOC – volatile organic compound



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USEPA Sample Locations (Surface and Subsurface)

Shoreline (NYC Dept. of Information Technology, 2006)

USGS Nat'l Elev. Dataset 5-foot Contours

Selected Site Property Boundary

Neighboring Site Property Boundary

●

●

●

●

●

●

Outfall Class

Direct Discharge

General

Highway Drain

Major Stormwater Outfall

SPDES

Storm Drain

**NOTES:**

1. Outfall Labeling: BB: Bowery Bay; NC(B/Q): Newtown Creek, Brooklyn/Queens; ST: Stormwater.

2. Outfall locations are preliminary, compiled, estimated data based on New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) maps and tabulated data and other resources. Many outfall locations were taken from the New York City Shoreline Survey Program: Newtown Creek Water Pollution Control Plant Drainage Area, NYCDEP, March 31, 2003. Other locations were taken from an excerpt from a similar report from 2008 (the complete report was not included in files available for review). Finally, some outfall locations were inherited from previous Anchor QEA and Newtown Creek Project work. Latitudinal and longitudinal data provided in the 2003 and 2008 NYCDEP reports were rounded to the nearest second. This resulted in potential outfall location discrepancies of up to approximately 200 feet. All outfall locations are currently under field verification.

3. Aerial Photos: New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, 2010.

4. Site Boundaries are based on New York City parcels data.

5. Coarse topographic contours are derived from U.S. Geological Survey 10-meter data.

0

100

200

300

400

Feet

DRAFT

**Figure 1**  
Site Vicinity Map  
Draft Upland Site Summary: United Envelope  
Newtown Creek RI/FS